

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A restriction requirement has been imposed by the Examiner on May 11, 2004.

Applicant hereby elects Group III, claims 64-68, 80-84, 92, 93, and 104-108, without traverse.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the non-elected claims in a divisional application.

Additionally, the numbering of claim 123 has been modified to correct a minor typographical error, even though the claim has been withdrawn.

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

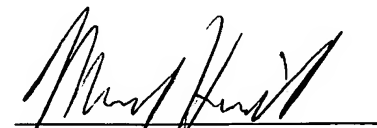
If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: 6/10/04


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